(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the next of the kin of the deceased and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 32 Indian pilgrims died in the stampede which took place at Mina on April 9, 1998.

(c) No compensation has been paid to the next of kin.

Shortfall in production of wheat

*125. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether wheat production this year suffered a deficit of 4.5 million tonnes as compared to the target of 68.5 million tonnes;

(b) if so, the stock position of wheat as at the beginning of the harvest season and the estimated annual requirement; and

(c) the amount of wheat proposed to be imported to meet the shortfall, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The production of wheat is likely to be 66.38 million tonnes as compared to the target of 68.50 million tonnes, thus showing a shortfall of 2.12 million tonnes.

(b) The stock of wheat held by FCI and State agencies as on 1st April, 1998 stood at 5.07 million tonnes. During the current marketing season, the Government has procured 11.64 million tonnes of wheat upto 1st June, 1998. It has been estimated that for meeting the demand of the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other welfare schemes of the Government, around 11 million tonnes of wheat are required annually.

(c) The Government has decided to import 1.5 million tonnes of wheat during 1998-99.

Ban on procurement of poultry from flu-affected countries

*126. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has recommended banning poultry and procurement of chicks and fowls from the bird flu-affected countries;

(b) whether any research has been carried out to treat the birds affected by flu; and

(c) whether any anti-flu vaccine has been developed for the poultry industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The disease does not exist in this country. However, as per the recommendation of Expert Group constituted by Department of Animal Husbandary & Dairying, the action for the development of infrastructure for the diagnosis of the disease has been initiated.

LPG waiting list

*127. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH SURYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the position of the waiting list for LPG connection in the country will October, 1997;

(b) how many connections were provided in different categories during the last three years;

(c) whether Government propose to get the ever increasing waiting list cleared at a faster rate; and

(d) if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS. (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The number of persons on the waiting list registered with the LPG distributors of the PSU Oil Companies in the Country was about 126.86 lakhs as on 1.10.1997.

(b) The number of connections released by the PSU Oil Companies during the last three years is as under:

(Figs. in lakhs)

CATEGORY	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Hill Market	4.65	5.46	5.74
Taj Trapezium	1.44	1.59	0.45
Tatkal	0.60	4.78	4.23
General	13.83	11.60	30.99
TOTAL:	20.52	23.43	41.42

(c) and (d) New LPG connections are released in a phased manner throughout the country depending upon the LPG availability, waiting list, slack available with the distributors and their vaiability. The increasing popularity of LPG as domestic cooking gas and subsidised price have led to a very high demand which has resulted in the creation of large waiting list for new LPG connections. This exceeds LPG availability from indigenous production of LPG and possible imports, and therefore, new enrolment plans are drawn up on the basis of LPG availability on a year to year basis.

Plans have been drawn to enrol additional new LPG customers in future years in the country by augmenting LPG availability. The LPG availability from indigenous sources is expected to increase from 3.444 MMT in 1997-98 to 6.873 MMT by the year 2001-02. More import facilities are also being put up to meet the deficit.

Efforts are constantly on to release LPG connections to applicants as early as possible. It has been planned to exhaust entire waiting list throughout the country by 2001-2.

सिंचाई-क्षमता का सृजन

*128. **श्री अखिलेश दास:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में सभी पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं के लिए सिंचाई-क्षमता सृजन का कुल लक्ष्य 86.99 मिलियन हैक्टेयर रखा गया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) सरकार द्वारा इस लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के लिए छठी, सातवीं और आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में कितनी धनराशि खर्च की गई; और

(घ) सभी पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन के बाद सिंचाई-क्षमता कितनी है और नौवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में कितनी अतिरिक्त सिंचाई-क्षमता सृजित किए जाने की योजना है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोमपाल): (क) से (घ) सिंचाई क्षमता के सृजन के लिए योजना-वार लक्ष्यों, इसके अनुरूप वास्तविक उपलब्धि तथा इन लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा व्यय की गई कुल राशि का विवरण नीचे दिये गये अनुसार है:—

योजना	सिंचाई क्षमता का सृजन (मिलियन हेक्टेयर में)		सिंचाई क्षमता के सृजन पर व्यय की गई राशि (करोड़ रुपये में)
	लक्ष्य	उपलब्धि	
प्रथम योजना (1951-56)	6.77	3.66	441.86
दूसरी योजना (1956-61)	8.50	2.82	522.23
तीसरी योजना (1961-66)	6.57	4.49	903.73
वार्षिक योजनाएं (1966-69)	3.53*	3.53	756.00
चौथी योजना (1969-74)	9.60	7.10	1754.58
पांचवीं योजना (1974-78)	13.11	7.82	3147.01
वार्षिक योजनाएं (1978-80)	4.59*	4.59	2580.08
छठी योजना (1980-85)	13.74	8.61	9348.09